THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the Government of NCT, Delhi and the Delhi High Court and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as it becomes available.

Disposal of litigations within reasonable time

8257. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge number of litigants are to wait eternally for justice as Courts are unable to dispose of their litigation within a reasonable time;

(b) whether Government have reviewed the situation with a view inter-alia to ascertain the time taken on average by the High Courts and the Supreme Court to dispose of a civil suit and a criminal suit.

(c) details of the outcome to such review;

(d) details of hinderances found to be coming on the way of disposal of litigations within a reasonable time; and

(e) steps taken and/or are contemplated towards removal of such hinderances and timeframe projected therefor?

THE MNISTER OF STATE IN THE MNISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFARS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a- to (e) The Government is aware of the pendency of cases in Courts which is due to various complex factors. Some of them, identified by the Malimath Committee, are population explosion, litigation explosion, inadequacy of judge strength, delays in filling up vacancies, lack of infrastructural facilities, long arguments and prolix judgments, lawyers strike and indiscriminate resort to Writ jurisdiction, etc. No study have been carried out to ascertain the average time taken by the High Courts and the Supreme Court to dispose off a civil suit or a criminal case as the disposal of a case depends upon various factors.

The Government is making all possible efforts to ensure that vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts are filled up as expeditiously as possible. In order to consider the problem of arrears of cases in Court and find out ways and means to deal with it as expeditiously as possible, a meeting of the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices was held on 4th December, 1993 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The Conference recommended several steps in a resolution it adopted for speedy disposal of cases in Courts/Tribunals, which have been accepted by the Government and commended to all the State Govrnments/UT Administrations and High Courts/Tribunals for necessary follow up action. Three Working Groups of Law Ministers, thereafter met to consider the recommendations contained in the above Resolution with regard to rural litigation, arrears of cases in administrative tribunals and alternative dispute resolution. The implementation of December, 1993 resolution and recommendations made by the Working Groups were reviewed by the Law Ministers at their plenary meting held in Calcutta in November, 1994. The resolutions adopted in the meeting have been commended to all the concrnd authorities for necessary follow-up action.

The Administration of Justice has been made a Plan item with a view to remove infranstructural bottlenecks coming in in the way of expeditious disposal of caess.

Institutional mechanism for non-conventional energy projects

8258. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have created suitable institutional mechanism for non-conventional energy projects, particularly for power generation;

(b) whether any directives have been issued by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?